SENATE OF CANADA
SÉNAT DU CANADA

PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

August 6, 2011

Greetings from the Prime Minister

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) Independence Gala, ***The Journey Continues****, marking the 49th anniversary of Jamaican Independence.*

This wonderful celebration coincides with the 49th anniversary of the JCA, which was founded during that first jubilant celebration of Jamaica's Independence in 1962. Almost half a century later, I am pleased to have this opportunity to commend the organization's laudable work and to commemorate this proud date in Jamaica's history.

Canada and Jamaica share a longstanding and historic friendship. As fellow Commonwealth nations and hemispheric neighbours, we collaborate closely in numerous international fora, including the United Nations and the Organization of American States. We are also working towards building a more robust trade relationship, which will provide significant economic benefits for both parties.

The ties between our two countries have been strengthened immensely by a large and dynamic Canadian Jamaican community. For generations, the JCA has been a pillar in the community, preserving and promoting Jamaican culture and heritage.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, please accept my best wishes for a joyous celebration.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada